

4-1-2008

## April 2008 Docket

Georgia State University College of Law

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# THE DOCKET

The Voice of the Georgia State University College of Law

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2 Announcements
- 3 Inside the ULB
- 5 Student Life/  
Special 4 Page Spread
- 9 Student Organizations
- 10 Pro Bono
- 11 Editorial
- 12 For Fun / Classifieds

The Events Guide for  
**Law Week**  
Inside the ULB  
Page 3

April 2008

## INSIDE



### Sandra Day O'Connor Visits the COL: Offers Insights to Students

Former Supreme Court Justice answers questions from COL students... covering an array of topics from abortion to affirmative action.

02

### Meet your new Editor: Lauren Parker, 2L

The Docket tradition continues as the reigns are passed to the next Editor-in-Chief.

04

### Fond Farewells

Outgoing student leaders share their thoughts and perspectives on life in (and out!) of law school.

05

### SPECIAL PULLOUT Faces of 2008...

#### Students on the move

The COL is full of amazing, intelligent students, come meet a few whom you may not know.

06

### Law School and Family Matters

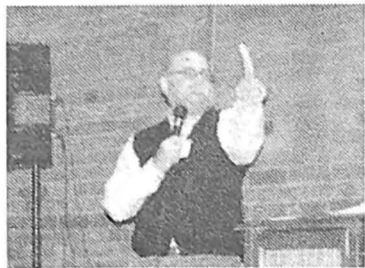
Students share their experiences on managing family life and law school--at the same time!

08

### So many organizations... so little time.

Back by Popular Demand: The basics about the law school student organizations: The Guide to Student Organizations inside!

09



### PILA Auction: Most Successful Ever!

The 16th Annual PILA Auction raises thousands of dollars for Foundation.

10

### Editorial: Drug Houses: Students' Opinions

Students weigh in on the legalities & moralities of "safe" drug houses.

11

### Downtime Fun

Try your hand at the Word Find. Or, try a new recipe to take your mind off exams. You gotta eat!

12

## Happy Law Week! Good luck on Exams! Congrats 2008 Grads!

We are in the midst of celebrating our 25th year. As such, the theme for Law Week is "Reflecting on our Past, Focusing on the Future." As I sit here writing my last editor's notes, I am reflecting on the past. I remember the day the SBA made the announcement that they were interested in bringing back the Docket. The newspaper had been on hiatus for over three years and there were currently no staff members. When I heard they were seeking staff members, I thought this may be the best way to put my advertising experience to work. I eagerly took on the task of bringing back The Docket. I won't say it was easy, but I will say that the students, faculty and administration paved the way for an easy transition. We were given a modest budget, I found a reasonably priced printer, put out a call for articles and the rest is history! The Docket was back in full force, supported by the entire COL community. The first issue of my tenure, was full of advice, informative articles and interviews with faculty and staff members.

It has been my honor to help bring this tradition back to life. But, it could not have been done without a lot of support, so, I wanted to use my last column to thank those who made this possible. First, the SBA for deciding to take on this task. It was a risky decision, not knowing whether the student body would be receptive to the idea, but the SBA had the vision and made it happen. I would also like to thank the administration for trusting the SBA's decision and allowing them to run with it—not knowing what the future would hold. Next, the many talented students who contributed ideas, wrote articles, gathered pictures and garnered support, for without you, The Docket would be nothing but blank pages.



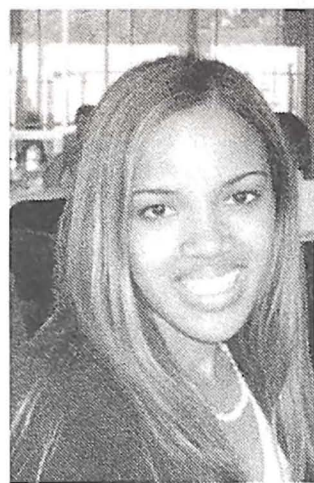
Jerri Nims-Rooker, our advisor, for enthusiastically supporting and helping to bring back the paper which was last published when she was the Editor. Also, the hardworking staff members, without whom, the articles would be sitting in an inbox instead of on a page. Thanks for the many late night hours, designing page layouts and deciding which stories to place. I do not believe we ever kept out a timely submitted article, because our readers worked so hard on them. I remember in one issue we had so many articles, that the masthead was relegated to the two inch bottom portion of a page. This speaks directly to the excitement the student body felt about the paper. Which brings me to you, constant reader. I don't know if there are words to describe how happy I felt, when after the February 2007 edition was published, I walked around the school and saw dozens of students reading or filling out the crossword puzzles. Therefore, I thank you, the COL student body, for embracing The Docket and helping the SBA's vision become a reality.

Now, to focus on the future. The person chosen to carry on this tradition is 2L Lauren Parker. Lauren brings with her a wealth of experience and an abundance of enthusiasm. You can read all about your new Editor in Chief, on Page 4.

Well, I'm running out of room, but not out of words. Good luck on exams and enjoy the summer. To the Spring 2008 grads, Congratulations and I will dearly miss sharing these halls with you.

Suzanne Jackson  
Editor-in-Chief  
Fall 2006 - Spring 2008

In the fast-paced world of law school, there is never enough time for all the reading that should get done, the briefs that should be written, or the classes that call for preparation. In addition, we must somehow make time for family, friends, and occasionally ourselves. Needless to say, rarely do we stop to appreciate the moments and capture memories. We are too busy just getting by from day to day. Before we realize it, the days have turned into three years and it's time to move on with our lives.



Amidst this hustle and bustle, I am proud to be part of something that captures the moments of the College of Law's history, The Docket. After a hiatus of three years, The Docket made its return in the 2006-2007 school

year. As a member of the small group of students determined to bring back the law school's newspaper, I can testify it was not an easy task. Finding FUNDS for publishing, getting committed staff writers and editors, and determining what the student body wanted from their newspaper, were just a few of the challenges we faced. However, with the support of GSU faculty and staff, past (and graduated) Docket staff, and a few excited students, The Docket made its return. As managing editor for the past two years, it is my hope that The Docket has, and will continue to provide writing opportunities and a means of expression for students, faculty, alumni, and the surrounding legal community. I am excited about the improvements The Docket has made over the last two years, with each issue being that much better than the last. I hope The Docket, as the voice of GSU, College of Law, continues to progress while capturing the memories of this busy world we call law school.

Sherrie Brady  
Managing Editor  
Fall 2006 - Spring 2008

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Honors Day Lunch: In honor of Student Achievements

As part of the Law Week festivities, all College of Law students are invited to attend the Honors Day Lunch on Wednesday, April 4, from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., in the Student Center's House and Senate Salon. The Honors Day Lunch is the one opportunity each year for the entire College of Law community to assemble and honor our students for their achievements.

### Art & Soul: An Evening of Fine Art and Live Music

April 12, 2008 - 6:00 PM - 9:30 PM  
Spend an evening with BLSA and BLSA Reunion 2008 guests enjoying works from local artists, and live music from Radiculture Records' Eddy Fontane and acoustic guitarist Brandon Thomas. This event is free of charge, but BLSA will be accepting donations to support programming and service projects.

### Annual Oglethorpe Charity Golf Tournament

The Tournament is April 12th at 1pm. It will be held at Bradshaw Farms in Canton. The cost is \$75 a player which includes your round and food afterwards. It is a Scramble Tournament with teams of four. The charity this year is Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

### BLSA Annual Bench & Bar Reception

April 11, 2008 - 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm  
West Exhibit Area - 2nd Floor Urban Life Building  
Join BLSA in honoring three distinguished members of our legal community for outstanding service and professionalism. Professor Angela J. Davis of the American University Washington Law School will deliver the keynote address and sign copies of her book, "The Power of the American Prosecutor," which addresses the disparate impact of prosecutorial discretion on the African-American community.



## O'Connor covers much ground in Student Q&A

By Brian Basinger

Former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor touched on an expansive field of topics March 12th when she sat down for nearly an hour to answer questions from Georgia State law students during her visit to campus for the College of Law's 25th anniversary.

O'Connor covered a broad array of questions, ranging from abortion, affirmative action, and judicial philosophy to chewing gum in court.

One student submitted a question about attempts by state legislatures to pass bans on abortion which could go into effect if the Supreme Court one day overrules *Roe v. Wade*. O'Connor, herself a former Arizona state lawmaker, responded by saying she believed it "strange" that a state would try to pass a law it is not yet able to enforce.

O'Connor also commented on her opinion in *Grutter v. Bollinger*, which in 2003 held that it is permissible to use race as a "plus factor" in law school admissions when such efforts are part of an individualized review of each applicant involving various other considerations beyond race, and are aimed at achieving diversity. In that case O'Connor, writing for the majority, said, "We expect that 25 years from now, the use of racial preferences will no longer be necessary to further the interest approved today."

O'Connor said during the Q&A that her comments about race-conscious admissions not being needed in 25 years were meant to be "aspirational" and not a dire prediction for such programs to end 25 years after 2003. She added that she was "despairing" that diversity in schools was not improving as quickly as she had hoped, and that there had instead been a "backlash" of state laws introduced to limit race-conscious admissions.

O'Connor went on to tell law students that current Chief Justice John G. Roberts was the best oral advocate she witnessed in her 25 years on the bench, saying law professors

should have their students watch videos of the appellate arguments Roberts made before becoming a judge. O'Connor applauded Roberts for his "conversational" style.

As for her own history on the court, O'Connor said it "drove me crazy" when she was called a "swing-voter."

O'Connor, the first woman to ever serve on the nation's highest court, said the United States is still "behind the times" when it comes to having women on the Supreme Court, noting that the current court's 8-1 split between men and women is very different from other nations.

As for the current term of the court, O'Connor said she was not closely following many cases, but was "curious" to see how the court would rule on the Second Amendment and the Washington, D.C. hand-gun ban.

O'Connor spent some time recalling her own confirmation hearings before the U.S. Senate, calling the experience "terrible" and remembering how eight rows of photographers and cameramen sat in front of her as she answered questions.



Students Kevin Mitchell and Rachel King pose with Former Supreme Court Justice, Sandra Day O'Connor.

When asked about whether it was better for justices to seek consensus in their opinions or to express their dissents liberally, O'Connor gave a long-ranging answer about the propriety of authoring dissents in current times. She said writing a dissent provides Congress with a diversity of viewpoints and a "blueprint" of alternative routes it can take in writing new law.

O'Connor's final tip for law students who aspire to argue before the Supreme Court: "Don't chew gum. It's very distracting. It's bad news."

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### COL moves up in the US News Rankings

The College of Law has once again advanced in the rankings published by U.S. News and World Report's 2009 edition of America's Best Graduate Schools. These rankings show the COL advancing to number 77 out of 200 law schools (up from the mid-80s last year and 97 the year before) and continuing to be the youngest law school with a top 100 ranking.

### CSO Offers "Attorneys in Residence Program"

CSO Director Vickie Brown has created the Attorneys in Residence Program (AIRP). Under this program practicing attorneys, Bonnie Rich and Tremelle Fishburne, will provide personalized, hands on career advice to COL students. They have each committed to about 20 hours per week, at least half of them on campus, from now until the middle of March. When they're not on campus, they'll advise you via phone, email or any other method you settle on. They will provide the perspectives of attorneys who have worked, both during and after school, to create rewarding careers for themselves and their families. Congratulations to Vickie Brown for creating such a great and practical program.

### Tax Clinic Recipient of President's Award

The University has selected the Tax Clinic as the Outstanding Faculty/Staff Recipient for the 2008 President's Award for Community Service and Social Action. A ceremony in honor of the Tax Clinic and the other 2008 recipients will be held on April 9 at 2 PM in the Speakers Auditorium. The award includes a \$500 gift to be paid to a University program of the recipient's choosing.

Congratulations Professor Blasi, Bill Timm, Sarah Ortiz, and our talented Tax Clinic students on a job very well done. Professor Emanuel nominated the Tax Clinic for this award.

### COL Alana Nichols Awarded Prestigious McGuireWoods Scholarship

The Leadership Institute for Women of Color Attorneys in Law and Business held its annual conference on March 12-14 at the Ritz Carlton in downtown Atlanta. McGuireWoods LLP contributed \$15,000, sponsoring five law student scholarships through the Leadership Institute. Second year GSU law student Alana Nichols was awarded the prestigious scholarship. Curtis Mack, a partner in McGuireWoods' Atlanta office stated, "McGuireWoods is very happy to help support these exceptional women as they pursue their legal careers, as we continue to encourage both minority women and men to pursue careers in law."

### Professor Curcio Voted "Professor of the Year"

Congratulations to Professor Curcio for being voted Professor of the Year. Prof. Curcio has been with the College of Law for 14 years and teaches Civil Procedure, Evidence and co-directs the Externship program. Good job!

### College of Law loses promising student

Garth Mahoney, one of our first-year students, passed away on February 16, 2008. Despite suffering from a serious illness, Garth vowed to attend law school. We were fortunate to have him here at Georgia State before the illness forced him to leave school and ultimately took his life. In his time at GSU, Garth displayed incredible determination and strength of character, along with a terrific sense of humor.

The Black Law Students Association hosted a candlelit memorial service for 1L Garth Mahoney on February 28, 2008 in Room 230 of the law school. Deans, faculty, staff and students gathered to pay their respects to the first year student who appeared to embody phenomenal courage and strength. Indeed, every one of us could learn a great deal from the life of Garth Mahoney.

### Not only Law Week, but...

#### Time to celebrate Law Day!

The first day of May of each year is designated as Law Day, U.S.A. It is set aside as a special day of celebration by the American people in appreciation of their liberties and the reaffirmation of their loyalty to the United States of America; of their rededication to the ideals of equality and justice under law in their relations with each other as well as with other nations; and for the cultivation of that respect for law that is so vital to the democratic way of life. (36 U.S.C.A. § 113)

Learn more at <http://www.lawday.org>.

## DOCKET

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The Docket is published by the Student Bar Association of Georgia State University College of Law. All students are encouraged to submit articles for publication. Please submit articles by email to [slee88@student.gsu.edu](mailto:slee88@student.gsu.edu).

It is The Docket policy that all submissions are subject to editing and space limitations. We make every effort to publish stories submitted by the deadline, with priority to the earliest submissions. The views and opinions contained herein do not necessarily reflect those of the faculty and student body of the College of Law, the SBA Board or the editorial staff of the Docket. Direct questions and comments to: [slee88@student.gsu.edu](mailto:slee88@student.gsu.edu).



Law Week: Reflecting on Our Past, Focusing on Our Future

25TH ANNIVERSARY LAW WEEK EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 5

Barristers Ball - An Evening at the Park  
Park Tavern (Terrace Level), 10th Street & Monroe  
7:30 p.m. - Midnight

Monday, April 7

- 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. HSBA: Hispanics Help: The Impact of Hispanics on Georgia  
Law Bites presented by the Hispanic Student Bar Association  
First Floor
- 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Law Week Kick-off with Alumna & Former Atlanta City Attorney Linda DiSantis:  
"Changes in Ethics Over Time: Have We Really Learned All We Need to Know in Law School?"  
Sponsored by the Intellectual Property Law Society & the Oglethorpe Legal Society  
Room 170
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. Intellectual Property (The Movie)  
Law Flicks & Discussion presented by the Intellectual Property Law Society  
Room 170
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. The Making of a Martyr: A Documentary on Child Suicide Bombers  
Law Flicks & Discussion presented by the Jewish Law Students Association  
Moderated by Professor Jonathan Todres  
Room 230

Tuesday, April 8

- 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Phi Alpha Delta Supports Your Right to Vote  
Law Bites presented by Phi Alpha Delta  
First Floor
- 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Preventing Fraud or Disenfranchising Voters?: Requiring Photo Identification to Vote in 2008  
Presented by the American Constitution Society & the Federalist Society  
Room 100
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. Lesbian & Gay Law Student Association Legal Trivia Bingo  
Presented by the Lesbian & Gay Law Student Association  
Prizes provided by Stonewall Bar Association  
Room 170
- 5:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. The Education of Shelby Knox: The Fight for Sex Ed  
Law Flicks & Discussion presented by Law Students for Reproductive Justice  
& the Child Advocacy Society  
Moderated by Professor Sylvia Caley  
Room 100
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Law Bites presented by LexisNexis  
First Floor

Wednesday, April 9

- 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Preparing Yourself for a Career in Criminal Law  
Law Bites presented by the Criminal Law Association  
First Floor
- 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Honors Day Luncheon - House & Senate Salon  
Georgia State University, Student Center
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. Two Weeks Notice: How Much to Sacrifice for the Job You Love  
Law Flicks & Discussion presented by the Association of Women Law Students  
Moderated by Alumna Kara Williamson  
Room 100
- 5:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. Genarlow Wilson 8th Amendment Debate  
Presented by the Black Law Students Association & Moot Court  
Room 675
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Law Bites presented by Westlaw  
First Floor

Thursday, April 10

- 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Healthy Breakfasts Make for Healthy Lawyers  
Law Bites presented by the Student Health Law Association  
First Floor
- 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Law School Tour, Deans & Professors Forum, Mini-Mock Trial  
Room 658
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. South Atlanta High School Students Speak Out on Urban Development  
Presented by the Child Advocacy Society  
Room 659
- 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The Lawyer's Role in the Management of Corporate Integrity  
Panelists: Former Chairman & CEO of Russell Corp., Jack Ward,  
Professor Jack Olson and Professor Linda DiSantis  
Presented by the Business & Law Society and the Environmental Law Society  
Room 100
- 11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The Japanese Legal System with Japanese Judge Taka Ito  
Presented by the Asian American Law Students Association  
Room 170
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. Famous Trial Lawyer Bingo  
Presented by the Student Trial Lawyers Association  
Room 100
- 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. Professor William Poole on International Business Law  
Presented by the International and Comparative Law Society  
Room 170
- 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. International Law & Mission Work  
Law Bites presented by the Christian Legal Society  
First Floor

Friday, April 11

Law Week Raffle • 12:00 p.m. • First Floor

Saturday, April 12

- 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Atlanta Humane Society Pet Parade  
Supported by the Public Interest Law Association - Candler Park

Due to publishing deadlines,  
this calendar may be incomplete.  
Please check the GSU-COL website  
(<http://law.gsu.edu>)  
and your email for  
the latest information.

25TH ANNIVERSARY LAW WEEK EVENTS AND SCHEDULE

Next Year:  
New Editor!  
New Ideas!

Congrats  
Grads!  
From the Staff  
of The Docket

Good Luck  
on Exams!  
From the Staff  
of The Docket

Have a  
Great  
Summer!



## Meet Lauren Parker...2008-2009 Editor of the Docket



**Name:** Lauren Parker  
**Birthplace:** Greenville, SC  
**Hometown:** Augusta  
**Undergraduate:** University of Georgia  
**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts: English  
**Experience:** Editorial Intern/  
 Augusta Magazine  
**Summer Job:** McDuffie DA's Office

**Goal after Law School:**  
 Work as an ADA  
*(a girl after my own heart)*

I was born in the only blizzard I believe Greenville, SC has ever faced, and I grew up in Augusta. I went to UGA in Athens and got a BA in English (one of my papers was on the poem "Casablanca" and was quoted by a Professor in one of her books) and an ABJ in Telecommunication Arts from the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communications (if you need a movie filmed, edited or critiqued, I'm your girl) and minored in Philosophy. I was a Pi Beta Phi, worked with Habitat for Humanity, Prince Street Elementary After School Program, and Relay for Life.

I worked as the Editorial Intern at the Augusta Magazine during the summer between my sophomore and junior year. The next summer I joined the Campaign Staff for Bob Ellis' run for Congress in GA's 9th District. We had 23 counties, including the 2 that make up Augusta, and I traveled to each one of them at some point during that

At GSU I became involved in the Oglethorpe Legal Society at the prompting of Prof. Lanier, my Civil Procedure professor, and though civil procedure wasn't so much my thing, I enjoyed OLS and am now running for their VP of Membership, so we'll see how that goes! I made the 2007-2008 STLA team and was a witness for the National Trial Competition in February. STLA has been extremely rewarding to me in many ways, for not only did it solidify my desire and conviction to become a litigator (more specifically, a prosecutor) but I have also had the wonderful fortune to meet many interesting and talented people. These connections have also opened other opportunities. First, I was nominated as the Editor-in-Chief of the illustrious Docket by its equally illustrious present Editor-in-Chief, Suzanne Jackson (yes, that was a shameless plug!). Second, the Prosecuting Attorneys' Council of Georgia was so impressed by the fact that Tom Jones was my STLA coach (or perhaps they were impressed that I survived him...) that they offered me a Summer Internship at the McDuffie County District Attorney's Office this summer.

I am also involved in volunteering in Atlanta with Hands On Atlanta and also with the Nicholas House in Decatur. With Hands on Atlanta and GSU I volunteered for Bright Futures Atlanta, landscaping and building a mural for the children who attend after-school services and summer camp services there. Also, with GSU and HOA, I helped prepare and serve Thanksgiving Dinner to the Nicholas House and later, with HOA, I volunteered to help watch and entertain the children at the Nicholas House while their parents attended Career Services classes given by Alston & Bird attorneys. The facts and figures we were told about were heartbreaking: the average age of a homeless person is nine years old; most people who are homeless have and maintain a job but it is simply not enough to support the family; because most shelters are not coed many families, if they can get a bed at the shelter at all, will be separated. This began my affiliation with the Nicholas House because I felt that it was a wonderful organization whose goals to help families end the cycle of homelessness were actually working. I am committed to volunteering on Monday nights to watch the children for an hour while their parents attend classes and have also volunteered to be a mentor for one of the children.

What I perhaps like best about the organization is that it is not simply donative, there is a system in place that recognizes the causes of homelessness and then educates the residents to ensure against them. The residents attend classes that help educate them about getting a job that will pay enough for them and their children to start a new life, about how to overcome the effects homelessness has on them and their children, and about financial planning to ensure that they are able to guard against becoming homeless again. Then, the organization helps place the families, when ready, into housing and up to two years after leaving the Nicholas House, 75% of those families are still maintaining their own permanent housing.

Also, the children there are resilient, bright, and awe-inspiring. Nearly 20% were honor roll students and the smiles on their faces make it clear that they are happy, healthy, and well on their way to a stable and fulfilling life with their parents. I have volunteered to be a mentor to one of the adolescent girls, Jessica, who is into music, poetry, and movies and wants to study English and Journalism when she goes to college. I cannot wait to watch her grow and learn and achieve her goals and feel very fortunate to be able to be a part of that process.

I want to run the newspaper because I feel that it's about time for me to use that Grady degree (kidding, of course)! I feel that the newspaper of any school is its lifeblood - students write about their experiences and their opinions about things that affect everyone in the school and, in the grand tradition of our forefathers (yes, I get a bit lofty when speaking about Journalism...), I think it is essential to any school, especially a law school, to have an unencumbered newspaper that challenges and even defies current thought. Moreover, it is important simply to have something more entertaining to read than Contracts! I will work hard to have a well-rounded paper for the students to enjoy and to participate in and hopefully I can keep the tradition of the Docket alive and prospering!!

After law school, I plan to work as an ADA, hopefully either in Atlanta or Augusta. Furthermore, I plan to either continue and expand my work with Nicholas House if I stay in Atlanta or perhaps help start a similar program in Augusta.

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AdaptiBar is yours for only \$345.00. Just use promo code W5345 when enrolling to receive the \$50 discount.

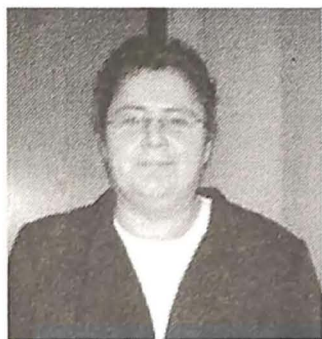


## Farewell...The leaders of today speak to those of tomorrow

By Suzanne Jackson

### Cylinda Parga, Editor-in-Chief of the Law Review

Cylinda graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor's degree in English. She worked for a magazine publisher in Lawrenceville for eight years before coming to GSU, doing a variety of pre-press jobs, including editing, training, and graphic design. After graduation I'll be doing transactional work here in Atlanta at Smith, Gambrell, and Russell, LLP.



I encourage all eligible students to pursue law review membership for two reasons. First is the numerous benefits Law Review provides to all of its members. One such benefit is that Law Review membership is one of the most powerful "door opener" credentials that a student can add to his or her resume. Employers tend to seek out Law Review members because of the other benefits students receive from participating in Law Review.

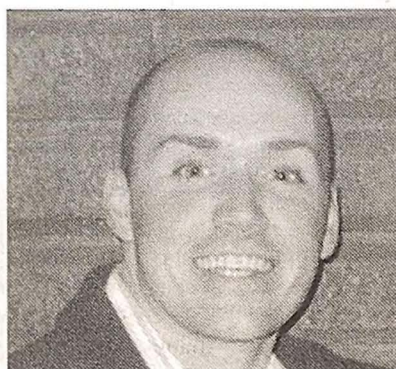
Through the various membership requirements, we not only become better writers and editors, but we also improve our ability to develop and critique analyses of complex legal issues. Law Review members also learn how to pay attention to the smallest of details to an exacting degree.

The second reason I believe students should pursue becoming a member of the Law Review is that it provides a way for students to give back to both the College of Law and the larger legal community. The GSU Law Review is a quarterly publication distributed to subscribers across the country, and as such it is a highly visible product of our school. Because it is produced through the collaborative effort of all of its members, each member is given a real opportunity to influence our school's reputation within the national legal community. Further, each member is given two opportunities to contribute a piece of original writing to the realm of legal scholarship. First and most importantly, every Law Review member writes a "Peach Sheet", which is the legislative history of a specific bill introduced in the Georgia Legislature. These student-written pieces are the unofficial legislative history of the state of Georgia, and they are frequently consulted by practitioners, law makers, academics, and judges throughout the state. Second, each member writes a student note analyzing a current legal issue. Each year the best student notes are selected for publication by the Law Review, thus allowing selected members to make lasting contributions to the national legal discourse.

There is an oft-expressed belief that law school is what you make of it. Being a member of GSU's Law Review is an excellent way to maximize the personal benefits you receive from law school while simultaneously contributing to the legal community.

### Joshua Saunders, President, Student Bar Association

Joshua is proof that tenacity goes a long way. After a disappointing 1L year which left him wondering if he should switch to part-time status so as to avoid so much debt for such mediocre grades, he bounced back in his second year, earning his first CALL award and obtaining an Honors designation in litigation. He has always shared his story with other students who have struggled in law school and thinks law school would be vastly improved if it were run more like an MBA program. He has tried to improve law school by filing an open records request seeking the production of what is now lovingly known as "the grade book" and by becoming the Student Bar Association President.



As Student Bar Association president, Joshua has secured official notice for students with regard to tuition increases, obtained a \$14,000 increase in the law school student organizations budget for next year, and has advocated extensively for the upcoming grade conversion whereby the curve will be retroactively raised and numerical grades will be converted to letters.

"I think that GSU law students are so starved for good grades that they overwork themselves and lack the time and energy to get

involved in trying to solve those issues that make law school less than ideal. As future lawyers, we want folks to come to us secure in the fact that we are competent problem-solvers who get things done. There's no better time to start practicing creative problem-solving and follow through than when you're in law school."

Besides keeping up with the research required by his multiple "paper" classes this semester, he has been anxiously following the developments of same-sex marriage laws in California in hopes that he might marry his partner of eight years after the bar this summer. Joshua attributes his (belated) law school success to the support of his partner, and fellow law student, Brian Basinger and the encouragement of several wonderful faculty members.

### Suzanne Jackson, President, Student Trial Lawyers Association

Suzanne is from a coastal town in Central New Jersey. She graduated from Kean University and worked in the advertising industry prior to coming to law school. Suzanne also served in two different branches of the United States' military as a combat arms (weapons) instructor. She credits surviving a fall out of an amusement park ride, as a teenager, for teaching her that "mediocrity is not an option."

After graduation, Suzanne will be working as an Assistant State Attorney for the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office.



I came to law school knowing exactly what I wanted—to be Angie Harmon's character on "Law & Order". Unfortunately, Hollywood was not calling, so, I figured the next best thing was to become a criminal prosecutor. As a prosecutor, I would have the opportunity to do what I wanted most of all—be a trial attorney. I just needed to learn the skills. That is how I discovered the Student Trial Lawyers Association (STLA). I believe I started pestering the last president of STLA from the moment I met her. Imagine my dismay to find out that I had to wait until my second year to try out!

STLA is the organization for the COL's mock trial team. As a member of STLA, students participate in national trial competitions acting as attorneys and witnesses. Being a member of STLA was one of the most rewarding parts of law school. The lessons and advice from the coaches helped me gain the valuable preparation I needed to become a successful mock trial competitor, as well as a confident trial attorney. The knowledge I have gained has followed me to my externship as a Third Year prosecutor in Juvenile Court. There I've held several trials, ranging from Simple Battery to Child Molestation, and I am certain that my experience on STLA gave me the confidence I needed to handle evidence, question witnesses, respond to objections and think on my feet.

STLA is a lot of hard work, but it is worth it! Our mock trial record speaks for itself, along with the successes of our alumni. In addition to excelling at advocacy skills, each student is building a relationship with successful trial attorneys who were once also members of STLA.

I encourage anyone interested in trial advocacy to pursue membership in STLA. The experience is invaluable and the skills you will acquire will prepare you for the courtroom.

### Matthew Midgett, President of Moot Court

Matt graduated from the University of Georgia with a major in Finance.

Upon graduation, I will work for Goodman, McGuffey, Lindsey & Johnson, LLP, but if that doesn't work out I am also sitting on a lucrative offer from Linkenback, Loube, Patel, & Schen, LLC.

I think that to excel in law school is one part hard work, one part Cool Ranch Doritos, and one part perseverance. Doing the math, that is only three parts. And seriously, what is comprised of three parts, really? Ants and snowmen, for starters. How about this then, law school is also a liberal sprinkling of self-awareness. Good. An even four parts. Checklist: Hard Work. Cool Ranch Doritos. Perseverance. Self-awareness.



No other organization that I was lucky enough to be a part of in law school embodied these characteristics more than the Adult Entertainment Law Society. However, Rob Schenk was the president of that, so let's talk about Moot Court. First, Moot Court competitions taught me that, even if one isn't the sharpest tool in the shed, an even playing field is created through attention to detail and hard work. Trust me on this. I've always thought that in the song, "Papa was a Rollin' Stone," the line was "All he left us was a LOAN" How dumb is that? But, I still managed to be a successful appellate advocate. The moral of the story is this: as long as an individual is willing to work to his or her fullest potential, anything is possible.

Cool Ranch Doritos. Could these be the perfect product? There is no doubt that most law students' performance is fueled by these delightful triangular snacks. Don't worry about that Yellow #5 thing- it's a myth.

Also, a lesson learned through Moot Court is perseverance. Even when an oral argument is not going your way, it is important to stick to your guns and never give up. Look at that Chilean soccer team in the Andes. They never gave up. Thus, they would have been pretty good at Moot Court. Seriously though, a useful tool is being able to see things through to the end. And, if need be, to cut a piece of meat off the next guy.

Finally, Moot Court taught me self-awareness. Many times in life, people want to be someone else, or emulate a character that is just not them. Remember MA\$E, Puff Daddy's hype-man? See, he was going through the motions of being a terribly one-dimensional, mediocre rap artist, when he received a message a la Joan of Arc, that this was not his path. That's when MA\$E looked deep within himself and realized that he would be much happier riding God's coattails as a Deacon than Puff Daddy's. Anyway, Moot Court similarly necessitates analyzing oneself in order to understand one's own strengths and weaknesses. This is such a useful tool, as it forces you to figure out what you are all about. For me, I realized I was curious. That's right. That kind of curious.

In sum, realize that law school is a step in your life that is very important and embrace the lessons and tribulations that are a part of the process. I can honestly say that I have been blessed with the opportunity to learn these along the way in Moot Court. I think that you can too. But don't take my word for it.....



## Faces of 2008...Students on the move

By Suzanne Jackson

Last year, it was announced that the COL was voted one of the Top 25 Most Underrated Law Schools. Commentors cited our highly competent students as one of the reasons our graduates are so desirable as first year associates. We did a little research of our own and found more of what we already know: Georgia State is bursting at the seams with qualified students. These are the 3Ls who, I am told, exemplify the greatness that is the College of Law. They've made their mark here, and are ready to go from the halls of the COL to the call of their future lives as attorneys (right after that pesky bar exam!). Congratulations, keep in touch and Good Luck!

### JENIFER KAMPSEN

**3** Jen Kampsen is best known for her work with the Public Interest Law Association. For two years she has helped fund nonpaid public interest work through her management of the PILA Fellowship Program. Under her leadership as President this year, PILA saw the most successful auction ever, raising over \$28,000. Jen is the founder of multiple public service efforts on campus, including the Annual GSU Law Day of Service and the Pro Bono Bulletin Board, which you may have seen in the first floor lobby.



Now that school is winding down as a 3L, Jen can most often be found at Juvenile Court. Her passion for child advocacy began as a 1L with her work as an educational advocate with the Truancy Intervention Project, for which she now serves on a planning and improvement committee. She currently advocates for abused and

neglected children at Fulton County Juvenile Court, and has worked as a prosecutor in Cobb County Juvenile Court, most notably on the Six Flags gang case.

Jen is an avid believer in the importance of quality of life while in law school. Although she has been busy, she has always found time for a fulfilling social life and group of friends, for church, and for those well-needed snowmobiling vacations. She loves law school, and will miss the unique combination of intellectual and social experiences it provides. Above all she will miss the brilliant students, faculty, and staff who make GSU law such a rich and unforgettable time.

### ZACHARY NORTH

**3** Zachary is an Atlanta native who, despite having gone to Massachusetts for college, chose to return home to attend law school at GSU. He came to law school undecided as to what area of law he would pursue a career in, but soon latched onto an emerging and previously unanticipated interest in criminal litigation.



Through summer jobs, internships, externships, and volunteer work, Zachary has sought and obtained experience in criminal law as practiced from the prosecutor's standpoint. During his first summer, he volunteered at the Pickens County District Attorney's Office (part of the Appalachian circuit) and was fortunate

enough to work primarily under two GSU alums, Joe Hendricks and Sara Grainger. Continuing along the prosecutor's track, he focused his electives more towards criminal law from that point forward, and spent his second summer as an intern for the Prosecuting Attorney's Council of Georgia, which assigned him to the Fulton County Solicitor General's Office under Colonel Murray, Richard Elliot, and Veronica Hoffer. Currently, Zachary is finishing up his 3L year by taking practical classes such as advanced evidence and advanced criminal litigation, and by participating in an externship at the DeKalb County District Attorney's Office, where he works directly under ADA Darius Pattillo in Judge Mark Anthony Scott's courtroom. Just this semester, Zachary was lucky enough to handle his first trial as lead attorney. He is pleased to report that the defendant was found guilty of armed robbery.

During his time at GSU, Zachary has been active in the Student Trial Lawyers Association, which runs the law school's mock trial program. He has been members of three fantastic teams, two of which won national championships. At the 2007 National Criminal Trial Competition, he was awarded Best Advocate. It is a wonderful program which he is proud to have been a part of. He is also currently working as a litigation associate, assisting the 2L litigation students and their professors. One such professor has hired him to help tutor her students outside of class. After graduation and the Bar exam, Zachary hopes to pursue a career in criminal prosecution.

### TIFFANY BARTHOLOMEW

**3** When Tiffany found out that the Army was moving her family from Hawai'i to North Georgia, she was less than thrilled but it turned out to be a blessing in disguise. She applied to Georgia State after googling "Atlanta law schools" and chose to attend without ever seeing the campus. It was one of the best decisions she ever made.

Tiffany moved to Cumming, Georgia in August of 2005 just before starting law school. She really enjoys her two hour commute to school, which involves three different modes of transportation: car, bus, and Marta. At least it gives her time to read. After her 1L year, Tiffany clerked for the Honorable David Dickinson, a Superior Court judge in Forsyth County. The clerkship gave her the opportunity to apply what she learned in her first year classes to the real world. Her 2L year, Tiffany was vice-president of the Immigration Law Society and Historian of BLSA. She also made STLA and had the amazing opportunity to be an attorney for her trial team. With the help of incredible coaches their team won their regional competition and advanced to nationals in Houston. The experience she gained was invaluable. The summer following her 2L year, Tiffany was one of 75 2Ls chosen nationally to participate in the summer internship program for the Army JAG Corps. She worked for the Staff Judge Advocate at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

As a 3L year, Tiffany served as Managing Editor of the law review, a research assistant for the wonderful Professor Natsu Saito, and a Bleckley Inn of Court pupil. She also managed to fit in two more STLA competitions. In her limited free time, Tiffany plays softball and volunteers with her son, Jaren's, school and sports teams. She is also preparing to celebrate ten years with her amazing husband, Peter, a U.S. Army Ranger.

After graduation, Tiffany will be moving to undetermined location. If the Army asks, she would prefer either Italy or back to Hawai'i. Wherever she ends up, she looks forward to starting a career in criminal defense, defending America's finest! Tiffany will leave Georgia with fond memories, great friends, and a taste for sweet tea.



### ERNESSA BRAWLEY

**3** Growing up in the Carolinas, Ernessa Brawley never imagined that her professional ambitions would bring her to the Peach State, but she now believes that Georgia is "definitely a place to call home."

After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a B.S. in Biology and a B.A. in Criminal Justice, Ernessa worked as a teacher (1 1/2 years) and pharmaceutical representative (3 years). Still, there was something missing...GSU College of Law. Ernessa describes law school as the "link which merges my long-term career aspirations with my desire to give back to the community. This has been an extremely insightful experience from a personal and professional perspective. This experience has confirmed my values, faith and commitment to serving those in need." For the past two years, Ernessa has explored her aspirations by researching issues related to law and health in her capacity as a GRA for Professor Charity Scott, Director of the Center for Law, Health and Society.

For Ernessa, the law school experience would not be complete without participation in student organizations. She is actively involved in the Black Law Students Association, Student Health Law Association, Bleckley Inn of Court and HeLP Legal Services Clinic. Additionally, through the law school she became a registered neutral with the Georgia Office of Alternative Dispute Resolution, which affords her the opportunity to mediate court-appointed and private disputes. Ernessa found her true passion when she became a member of the Student Trial Lawyers Association. She credits the organization and her relationship with her coaches as a "critical component to my success as a student and future attorney." In fact, last fall her team won the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers Mock Trial competition.

In September, Ernessa will join Swift, Currie McGhee & Hiers as one of the "newbies." She believes that the professional relationships acquired at GSU will be priceless resources when she begins the practice of law. In the meantime, she looks forward to spending time with her family, friends and dog, Bailey—she believes Bailey should get an honorary law degree. Her advice to 1Ls is to "use the skills and relationships attained at GSU College of Law to be an invaluable contributor to those within the community we are bound to serve. Good Luck!"



### DANIEL O'CONNELL

**3** I grew up in Decatur, and was an English major at UGA. After getting a masters degree at NYU, I decided to come back to Georgia and go to law school instead of continuing in academia. For the past two years, I've been a member of Moot Court and after my student trial in my 2L year, I received the "Honors in Litigation" award.

I am now a 3L with a strong interest in state government. After my first year I had an internship with the State Department of Corrections. After my second year I began working for the Appellate Division of the State Board of Worker's Compensation, where I still work today. The State Board has numerous administrative law judges around the state who hold hearings in disputes between injured workers and their employers' insurance companies. When an ALJ's opinion is appealed, it comes to the Directors of the State Board, who are located in an office building on Peachtree St., a short walk from GSU. The directors, who are a panel of three judges, then read the briefs and hear short oral arguments, make an initial assessment of the case, and assign the cases to their staff attorneys (and some to me). I then review the record and draft the awards that document the judges' award. I enjoy working in Worker's Compensation because it's a legal job that's centered around the concerns of ordinary people. I find it truly rewarding.

I am also so glad that I came to GSU Law school, not only because it is such a great value, and has such great people, but also because it has afforded me the opportunity to network and to take great jobs in Atlanta, the center of state government.



### KEITH HAYASAKA

**3** Before entering GSU Law, Keith's very first law-related job was working for a real estate closing attorney in his hometown of Clemson, S.C. who told him time and again to "never presume anything." She turned out to be right. After working for a number of years in the film industry in Los Angeles, Keith approached law school with the presumption he would end up doing transactional work. "Public speaking was one of my lifelong fears and I dreaded the 1L RWA oral argument competition. But I somehow survived that rite of passage and was later invited to join Moot Court, which was unexpected. Then, on a bit of a whim, I decided to try out for the Student Trial Lawyers Association. It was actually competing in the various regional and national mock trial tournaments that really sparked my interest in litigation. My STLA coaches Tom Jones and Cheryl Champion-White have been fantastic mentors and I cannot give them enough credit for developing the trial advocacy skills that will allow me to succeed in the courtroom one day."

Looking back, law school has been an unexpected ride for Keith. He started off thinking he would do one thing but will end up doing something completely different. He also acknowledges there were times in the past few years where he did not get enough sleep or exercise due to his class, trial team, and work schedule. "But strangely enough, I am a bit sad to see my time at GSU come to an end. I've had some rewarding experiences and met some awesome people here. I'm going to miss hanging out in the lobby in between classes. And all those free lunches weren't bad, either."

After graduation, Keith will be practicing civil litigation defense at the Atlanta law firm Drew, Eckl & Farnham.



### BRIAN BASINGER

**3** Brian Basinger served as Legislation Co-Editor for the Law Review, President of the Lesbian & Gay Law Student Association (LGLSA), Clerk of the Honor Court, and as a graduate research assistant for Professor Charity Scott, focusing on health-care laws affecting low-income children.

Brian looks back on his decision to attend Georgia State College of Law one of the best choices he ever made. He chose GSU largely because of the school's externship program, and its dedication to public service. Brian took advantage of these assets, serving as an extern to Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Leah Sears. He also enrolled in the Health Law Partnership Clinic, where he was able to help address the legal needs of low-income clients whose children were being treated by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta. Brian highly recommends this program to all law students interested in getting client experience. "Our students in the Clinic can help secure disability benefits for truly sick children, compel landlords to clean up the mold that exacerbates children's asthma, and fight for those who have been abused as consumers," Brian said.

One of Brian's happiest memories of law school was seeing his partner of eight years, Joshua Saunders, elected as Student Bar Association President. Brian is so proud of Joshua's accomplishments, particularly the strong advocacy for students which Joshua brought to the table on such issues as student organization funding, advanced notice of tuition increases, and consistent grading policies. "Joshua inspired me every day to work hard and make a difference. I never could have made it through school without him," Brian said.

Brian spent his first summer working in the corporate counsel office of the American Cancer Society, while his second summer was spent on a litigation-focused track at the firm of King & Spalding.

This fall, Brian will join the Atlanta office of King & Spalding, reducing his commute to 1.1 miles each way. Brian plans to walk to work when the weather is nice, and hopes the firm won't mind if he goes home on occasion to have lunch with the family's 5-year-old shepherd-retriever mix, Linus. "That dog was our biggest support in law school," Brian said. "We owe him a mountain of biscuits and maybe a diamond collar."





## Faces of 2008...Students on the move

By Suzanne Jackson

### KENDRA WALLACE

**2** Kendra Wallace grew up in Pine Bluff, Arkansas and arrived in Atlanta by way of Tallahassee, FL. Kendra Wallace attended Florida A&M University where she obtained both her bachelors and master degrees in business administration. Before law school she worked as a marketing associate at a small Internet services company.



Kendra will have the pleasure of serving as Managing Editor of the GSU Law Review.

People think I do a lot of activities, and I do, but I feel as though you can do as many things as you put your mind to.

I am not one of the people who always knew I wanted to be an attorney. But now that I'm half way there I can't believe I ever thought of doing anything else. After graduation, Kendra plans to work in the area of business litigation.

*On the next two pages are a few exemplary students, from every class, who've made a difference and achieved amazing things during their time in school. I know there are a lot of students featured, and when I received the list, my plan was to narrow it down...but, alas! Our school just produces so much greatness!*

### NATHAN FITZPATRICK

**2** Born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee, a city known for its rich musical culture and heritage, Nathan grew up a lover of music and had early aspirations to become a music producer. At age 11, he was already producing, recording, and selling music. Nathan would finally go on to start his own production company, Memphis Scholar Productions, while seeking a degree in Political Science at The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Nathan's ambition as a music producer has exposed him to numerous areas of the entertainment industry and has successfully helped him jumpstart magazines, record labels, and even a full length film for Warner Brothers. His exploits eventually led him to Atlanta, Georgia to study Entertainment Law at Georgia State University College of Law. He is the current President of the Sports and Entertainment Law Society.



Upon graduation, Nathan's ultimate goal is to start his own law firm with practice areas of Criminal Law, Entertainment Law and Civil Litigation, but would like to begin his legal career as a prosecutor. Nathan is planning to work at the Dekalb Public Defender's Office and perhaps gain experience in a District Attorney's Office.

### PAUL BARSNESS

**2** Paul Barsness graduated from the University of Georgia in 1998 with degrees in economics and political science. At UGA, Paul was a member of the debate team and finished second at the 1998 National Debate Tournament.



Paul also represented the University of Georgia and the United States in a series of trade debates with a delegation from Japan, and represented the University of Georgia in a special debate on nationalism during the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games.

After graduation, Paul began working in politics at the Democratic Party of Georgia where he served as both Research Director and House Caucus Director. In 2004, Mr. Barsness was recruited to serve as Research Director for U.S. Senate candidate Blair Hull in Illinois. This exciting election saw current Presidential candidate Barack Obama elected to the United States Senate. After the primary, Paul returned to Atlanta and married his fiancé Allison Ashe. Allison is currently the Chief Operating Officer of the Atlanta Police Foundation. Paul and Allison have one daughter, Ava Sophia Barsness, and they are expecting their second child – a son – in July.

In 2006, Paul decided to go to law school at Georgia State University. Since that time, he has been deeply involved in student organizations and academic programs. Paul is the current President of the Child Advocacy Society. CAS focuses on a variety of issues affecting children and operates the Street Law program at Georgia State. Paul is a member of Moot Court and is representing the school at the annual Intrastate competition held this year at Mercer on March 28-29. Mr. Barsness is also a member of Law Review where he serves as the incoming Editor-in-Chief.

After law school, Paul currently plans to practice civil litigation, with a likely focus in either commercial litigation, international arbitration, or employment law. Mr. Barsness spent last summer working at Ashe, Rafuse & Hill. This summer, he will start at Kilpatrick Stockton for the first half of the summer and then return to Ashe, Rafuse & Hill. In his spare time, Paul enjoys playing with his daughter.

### LAURICE RUTLEDGE

**1** Laurice was raised in NJ and graduated from The College of William & Mary in 2004. Laurice is the current Social Chair for Phi Alpha Delta and is an active participant in the Child Advocacy Society's Street Law Program.



"Being a 'Jersey-girl' at heart it is hard to believe I somehow ended up in Georgia! I first ventured south when I attended The College of William & Mary, graduating in 2004. I found myself closer to home for a few years doing healthcare litigation

consulting work in Washington, DC, but soon realized it was time to follow the voice in the back of my head that had always been telling me to go to law school. GSU College of Law's Health Policy program was the final force in encouraging my return to the South. My ultimate goal, however, is to practice Special Education Law, to help families of children with disabilities, as well as disabled individuals themselves, get the services they are entitled to. This is a field near and dear to my heart and I draw my inspiration from my brother, a young man who has forever changed my life.

I am competitive by nature – I played four-years of varsity lacrosse in college and have always demanded nothing short of excellence from myself – but law school is one of the most competitive environments I have ever been a part of. That being said, this first year has taught me one very important lesson: It is easy to get caught up in the 'rat-race' and compare yourself to what everyone else is doing, but if you have a goal or an aspiration, do not let that go, because in the end it is what will make you stand out above the rest."

### JOCELYN WHITFIELD

**1**



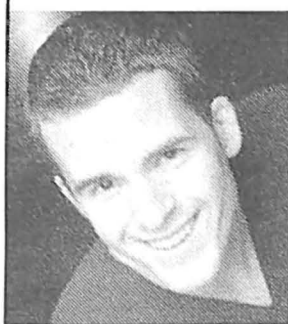
Prior to coming to GSU I was involved in careers that dealt with the law, so it seemed only natural to follow my lifelong dream of getting a law degree. I taught high school U.S. History, Geography and Government before becoming a lobbyist for public education and public educators. I was the chief lobbyist and director of government relations for the 40,000 member Georgia Association of Educators and had the responsibility of writing legislation, promoting good bills and defeating really bad ones. In law school I am finally sinking my teeth into the other side of the law and I could not be happier (well, maybe if my grades were better).

The diversity of GSU, the wonderful and supportive faculty, and the caliber of my fellow law students make me realize everyday how lucky I am to be able to pursue this new path, and new world. Not that the first year of law school is all roses, but having the loving support of my partner, the care and concern of my professors who just want to see us succeed and the invaluable network of my 1L classmates and incredible support of 2L and 3L colleagues has made this journey possible.

The opportunities that have been opened up for me through the College of Law are phenomenal. I am a member of the Lesbian and Gay Law Students Association, as well as the Stonewall Bar Association of Georgia. I am also a member of the Public Interest Law Association and got to help with the auction this year, which was a blast. I also serve as a mentor to two students at Carver High School and I am a volunteer with the Truancy Intervention Project. This summer I will be studying International Commercial Arbitration in Austria. After "spending the summer in Europe" (I've always wanted to say that) I will start work at the Georgia Innocence Project. I don't think I could ask for a better summer than the one I have ahead of me. When I am not working I will be camping with my partner, riding my motorcycle or just reading for pleasure, which has become a faint memory at this point.

I have learned many things in the seven months I have been in law school, but the greatest lessons have been discovering what I am capable of, what my strengths and weaknesses are, and that I could not survive this process if I was not surrounded by family, friends, and classmates, or was not in a school where everyone works hard to make my dream possible and to make my efforts worthwhile.

### JONATHAN PAGE



**1**

Jonathan is a first year law student who prefers plunging headstrong into new adventures. Getting married, becoming a stepdad and starting law school all happened within just a few days of each other. "Life is too short to slow down. Every day is a new and exciting opportunity to learn something interesting, to make a difference in someone's life, and to excel."

Prior to attending Georgia Tech, where he graduated with a B.S. in Science, Technology and Culture, Jonathan certified as a professional Ballroom and Latin Dance Instructor with the Arthur Murray Dance Studios. After spearheading the marketing and sales for Atlanta based accounting firm, he opened his own dance studio, employing two additional instructors to teach children and adults throughout Atlanta. Simultaneously, Jonathan became a member of a local Toastmasters club, where he worked on improving his presentation and leadership skills, and within a year, he led the club's educational programs as their Vice-President of Education. Additionally, Jonathan could be seen on the stages of community theater houses in such productions as Neil Simon's The Sunshine Boys and ... Beau Jest.

"You have to keep moving forward. Be grateful for your mistakes and your successes. Be generous with your love and open your mind to the possibilities. Attitude is everything. In my final moments, when I am lying on my death bed, I want to look back on my life to see that I did the very best that I could with what God gave me. I loved. I was loved. And I made a difference."

Currently, Jonathan is a member of The Street Law Program and HSBA. This summer he will be interning at the Cobb County District Attorney's Office, Appellant Division. His favorite teachers are Professor Scott for Torts and Professor Kinkopf for Civil Procedure. He aspires to be a great litigation attorney and a statesman. He wants to specially thank his lovely wife, Mariana, and his stepson Ryan for their support and love.

### KEVIN MITCHELL

**2**

Kevin was born and raised in the small rural community of Ocilla, Georgia. After graduating from Irwin County High School, he attending Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, then transferred and graduated from the University of Georgia with a BA in Political Science and a concentration in International Affairs.



While at the College of Law, Kevin has tried to remain active. He is the president of the Christian Legal Society, a member of the Student Trial Lawyers Association, a member of the Federalist Society, serving as community

coordinator, and participated in the Street Law program.

Kevin counts his experience in STLA one of the most rewarding and practical experiences law school has provided. "I have thoroughly enjoyed the chance to practice litigation in a competitive situation. I think it is important to take a wide variety of courses, not just ones that will prepare you for the Bar Exam or ones in the area you choose to practice."

He also aids the Admissions Office during recruitment as well as providing tours for potential incoming students.

Upon graduation, Kevin plans to work Worker's Compensation & Medical Liability Defense. He plans on joining the law firm of Speed, Seta and Waters in Lawrenceville upon completion of law school. But you never know what life throws at you. Sometimes you just have to go through doors as God opens them.



## More Faces of 2008...Students on the move

By Suzanne Jackson

### REBECCA DEMBKOWSKI

2

This year I served as a Faculty Co-Chair for the annual PILA Auction, which raises money to fund those working in the area of public interest over the summer months. This position kept me busy, as our faculty is extremely generous; they together are our highest contributors annually.



I also helped coordinate and volunteered with the Street Law Program. It is a program that travels to underprivileged schools to teach high school students lessons on various law related topics. I currently have an externship with the Georgia Innocence Project, which uses DNA evidence to exonerate those wrongly convicted.

This summer I am studying abroad in Rio de Janeiro for four weeks, partially funded by the Johan Droogmans Scholarship, which rewards deserving students studying abroad over the summer months. For the rest of the summer I will be working at the Gwinnett County Solicitor's Office, a full-time summer prosecution internship involving research, writing, and trying cases.

*Last, but not least, more students who exemplify the spirit of Georgia State University College of Law!*

### MARIAN ADEIMY

2

Marian Adeimy is from Norcross, GA. She graduated cum laude from the University of Georgia in Political Science and Public Relations. Marian worked at the Georgia State Capitol for two Legislative Sessions for Georgialink Public Affairs Group and the Majority Whip before coming to Georgia State. Marian is Vice President of the Student Bar Association and is currently planning Barristers Ball. Marian will be working as a Summer Associate with Anderson, Tate & Carr, the largest real estate and civil litigation firm in Gwinnett. She hopes to continue on in Real estate and land use law. Marian enjoys playing tennis and jogging outside and being involved at Buckhead Church. Marian appreciates law school and the fact that it gives her an excuse to take frequent breaks with her friends. In her time off, Marian volunteers as a Big Sister and as a Sunday School teacher at Buckhead Church.



### DAVID PURVIS

1

I first started thinking about law school as an undergrad student at Georgia State University. Six years after graduating, I was ready to return to academia and pursue my goal of attending law school. My years before law school were spent as an Operations Manager for a national retailer and a National Accounts coordinator for a fire protection business. I was passionate about both these positions and along the way strengthened my inter-personal skills as well as gained invaluable real world experience to assist me on way to becoming an attorney.



At the start of my law school career here at GSU, I made a conscious decision to make the most of the three years. So far, I have served as the 1L Full Time Senator for SBA during which I have served as co-chair for this year's Law Week and on the Barrister's Ball Committee. I participate in the Carver Mentor Program through the Student Health Law Association and am a member of Oglethorpe Legal Society.

As of now, I'm still figuring out what will come after graduation. I see myself working for a small or medium sized firm and am most interested in Labor/Employment Law, Elder Law, and Real Estate Law. But for now, I plan on staying actively involved in the law school community because despite the hard work, I don't just want the three years to pass by!

## Law School...A Family Affair

By Kevin Mitchell

While in law school, it is a pretty common occurrence to wish that your family members would realize the commitment and sacrifice you make just to stay ahead of the game. We often may wish our families could go through law school so they would know first hand what law school is like. The Lacis family knows all too well what law school takes out of a member of the family. Ivars and Nick Lacis are two students at the GSU College of Law. Ivars is also Nick's father.

While each may understand the rigors of law school, both are embarking upon a unique experience that is different than the experience of the other. Nick, a 2007 graduate of the University of Georgia, has an interest in transactional law and would prefer a larger firm in Atlanta after graduation. He is a full-time 1L. His father, Ivars is a part-time law student that also flies for Delta when he is not outlining for class, prefers criminal law and plans to follow the trial lawyer route. Ivars grew up in the Baltimore suburbs and graduated from Duke in 1979. He then completed Air Force pilot training the following year. He picked up his M.S. degree from So. Cal in 1983 and was hired by Delta in 1987. He is currently a captain on the B-757 & 767 aircraft. In addition to his

flying and attending classes, he works one day a week for Chief Judge Barnes at the Georgia Court of Appeals. He acknowledges that his wife, Laura, deserves great credit. "I could not do this without her support." In addition to Nick, he and Laura are also the parents of two other children.

When asked about choosing a law school, Ivars listed many reasons for choosing Georgia State. "GSU Law was an obvious choice for me. It's the highest ranked school, with a part time program, that is within driving distance of my home in Peachtree City. I've been in the same house for 20 years, and I'm not moving."

When asked if he is sympathetic for his son's law school experience, Ivars let it be known quickly that is not the case. "Nicholas gets lots of empathy from me - NO sympathy." Everyone deals with stress in their own way. Ivars has a unique perspective regarding exam stress. "Law students complain a lot about their final grade being based on a three-hour written examination. In the aviation community it is customary that after a pilot has completed his study of an aircraft's systems and procedures that for the final examination he meets with an examiner, one-on-one, for a three-hour oral examination.

Who amongst us, in lieu of a three-hour written final exam, would prefer to sit down with someone like Professor Kinkopf or Professor Milich for a three-hour "chat" in order to determine one's final grade?"

In case you are wondering, there are no family outlining sessions. Ivars and Nick have yet to have the same class or schedule. And just in case anyone is wondering if these two are the only members of the Lacis family to come to GSU, Nick's brother, Daniel, is currently studying for the LSAT. His sister, Mary, is a sophomore at GSU for the time being, but will be transferring to Georgia Tech in the fall. When asked if his father was one of the reasons Nick chose law school, he responded it was not. When asked why choose law school, he went on to say, "I often wonder that myself, especially the month leading up to finals." But seeing his father go through law school did not discourage his decision, it solidified his decision to come to law school.

As far as how the other members of the Lacis family enjoy the conversations of the two future attorneys, Nick let it be known that "everyone ends up getting sick of hearing us argue about some case or final exams."

## Law Students with Children

By Stacie Patrice Kershner

I read an article in the last issue of the Docket with a smirk - the article was about a father and law student at Duke University. I had to laugh because I am a fifth year law student with a four-year-old, a two-year-old and a full time job. One of my study partners has triplet toddlers on top of a full time job. We are not unique - GSU's College of Law is filled with chaotic, busy, and weary parents like us.

I didn't intend to do everything at once. I found out that my government contracted research position was not being renewed, that I was pregnant, and that I got accepted into GSU's COL in the same week. I accepted these pieces of information with hysteria that only women who have lived through their first trimester can appreciate. I started classes already prepared - it turns out that while no possible sleep position was comfortable, a pregnant tummy makes a perfect built-in desk for a laptop and text books.

That first semester, I coaxed myself through. But my daughter has impeccable and ironic timing. She arrived unexpectedly early - the night before my first exam. I think the first thing I did after waking from the anesthesia was to ask whether anyone had gotten a hold of Tricia Rackliffe (and I know I am not the only one who owes her law school success to Tricia!). Baby girl was tiny

and stayed in the hospital for about a month, where I spread out my notes and studied on the NICU floor. Thankfully, first year classes combine first and second semester grades. I needed those spring grades to bring my fall grades up - and like most new parents, I've been behind ever since.

Now my second child is almost two, and my husband and I still haven't really worked out a system. Matt Wolfe, the focus of the original article that had me laughing, described his son pulling out the tabs of his textbook - tabs? Who has time for index tabs? The article also made suggestions about how to survive law school with kids. While suggestions like "Treat School Like a Job" may work for a parent staying home during law school, that is a luxury that many GSU COL parents don't have since many actually have jobs, too. My friend with two-year-old triplets? Well, she is a patent agent at one of the largest, most prestigious law firms in town. Let's just say her days aren't always nine to five. I am grateful to work on campus - many of my university colleagues keep unusual schedules, so no one blinks when I am shooting off emails at mid-night.

What suggestions do I have? My advice is "Forgive Thy Self!" You can't juggle kids, job, school, home and hubby and expect all of the balls to stay in the air and

rotate in perfect rhythm. I freely admit that my family is my highest priority and that school and work tie for second place. My house takes a distant third - the clutter rises tall enough in some areas to create the sneaky places to play "Hide and Count" as my four-year-old calls her favorite game. But even though I know in my heart that I have my priorities in order, I still feel guilty when I don't finish an assigned reading or when the daycare calls while I am trying to work. At the end of the day though I forgive myself for not being perfect and go on.

I do have a suggestion for GSU. The COL naturally attracts this demographic of parent students with its strong part-time program, and would do well to consider adding additional varied courses during the evenings and summers, to promote parent student organizations, and to examine the availability and accessibility of on-campus child care for irregular hours.

So, I am finally seeing the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel. Not only is graduation drawing near, but my daughter is almost in elementary school and my son is almost out of diapers. By this time next year, I might be able to look back on these five years as a wonderful albeit insane time in our family's life. Or maybe I'll have just traded in one crazy day for another...



## The Guide to Student Organizations

By Suzanne Jackson

Ever wonder what BLSA, B&LS & SHLA stand for? Or, are you just happy they are not another group of mnemonics to memorize for your Property exam? Joining a student organization is a great way to meet and work with other students who share the same interests. With so many choices, there is something for everyone, and thus, it may be hard to decide which to join. Here are the current organizations, along with their respective mission statements. Read on, find your passion!

### American Constitution Society

Provide a forum for students of GSU College of Law to explore progressive legal debate and development of new progressive ideas and scholarship.

### Asian American Law Students

To foster and improve ties between Asian American Law students and Members of the Asian American Bar and Bench and the legal community as a whole. To foster an environment conducive to the continued advancement of Asian American law students and to ensure their success as future attorneys.

### Association of Women Law Students (AWLS)

To show concern about the under representation and lack of parity of women in the legal profession.

### Black Law Students Association (BLSA)

To articulate and promote the professional needs and goals of black law students while seeking to influence the legal community to bring about meaningful change to meet the needs of the Black community.

### Business & Law Society (B&LS)

To foster a broad understanding of business issues facing attorneys today. To focus on the interest of JD/MBA candidates, providing an introduction of business issues that affect the careers of business and law students.

### Child Advocacy Society

To promote the exchange of ideas and the creation and fulfillment of opportunities related to child advocacy in law, policy, health and education.

### Christian Legal Society

To maintain a vibrant Christian Fellowship on GSU's College of Law campus which enables our members to love the Lord with our whole beings-- hearts, souls, and minds-- and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

### Criminal Law Association

The Criminal Law Association seeks to promote both the study and the practice of criminal law and provides information and assistance to students interested in the criminal field, both prosecution and defense, as well as networking with professionals in the field.

### Environmental Law Society

Seeks to provide a forum for law students to explore the field of environmental law, a network of students and professionals to support professional growth.

### Hispanic Student Bar Association

To play an active role in the furthering of Hispanic awareness and interests within the GSU College of Law and the legal community.

### Federalist Society

To embrace the principle that the state exists to preserve freedom, the separation of governmental powers is central to the integrity of the Constitution, and that it is the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is and not what it should be. To promote an awareness of these principles through activities.

### Immigration Law Society (ILS)

To further the awareness of immigration issues, volunteer with the Atlanta legal community, and seek to increase interest in the practice of Immigration law.

### Intellectual Property Law Society (IPLS)

Provide members with opportunities to network with practicing IP attorneys. To learn more about Intellectual Property art and technology issues, and also provide a forum for students to work together to build their legal careers.

### International and Comparative Law Society

To promote the study of international law and legal topics such as international human rights, state-to-state relations, and international business issues. To strengthen ties between its student members and the legal community.

### James Olgethorpe Legal Society

To expose the rest of Georgia lawyers to the excellent talent that been and is being molded and refined at our school by putting on different legal programs.

### Jewish Law Student Association

To share an interest in Jewish legal issues and socio-political concerns and in meeting the needs and interest of Jewish law students.

### Law Review

To publish a legal journal four times a year by 2nd and 3rd year GSU law students who have demonstrated outstanding writing and academic skills.

### Law Students for Choice

This new COL organization seeks to educate, organize, and support law students to ensure that a new generation of advocates will be prepared to protect and expand reproductive rights as basic civil and human rights.

### Moot Court

To develop each member's potential in written and oral advocacy and to represent the College of Law successfully in various Moot Court competitions, and to enhance each individual member's educational experience in law school.

### Lesbian and Gay Law Student Association

(formerly OUTLaw) To support lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender law students at GSU by encouraging personal, social, professional, and academic development. To seek to be educational to the greater law school community.

### Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)

To form a strong bond uniting students and teachers of law with members of the Bench and Bar in fraternal fellowship designed to advance the ideals of liberty and equal justice under law.

### Public Interest Law Association

To educate students and the public at large about public interest law issues and seek to promote the goals of public's interest law in protecting the public rights.

### Sports and Entertainment Law Society

To promote the law school and its students in the Sports and Entertainment network in Atlanta. To provide information to our members concerning different opportunities in the Sports and Entertainment law field.

### Student Bar Association

To serve the student body by acting as an advocate of all academic concerns, a promoter of student life, and a coordinator of all those peripheral functions that are integral to the achievement of academic excellence.

### Student Health Law Association (SHLA)

To provide an organization for students with a legal interest in the healthcare field. Any student who is interested in health law issues, opportunities, and programs is encouraged to join.

### Student Trial Lawyers Association (STLA)

To educate and train the future litigators in Georgia. To allow each student participant to learn and grow far beyond any level they could through only the curriculum of law school.

## Law Review Board Announces 2008-2009 Publication Selections

The Law Review Board announced that the following notes and comments were selected for publication for the 2008-2009 year:

*Bareboat Charters: Can a Shipowner Limit Liability to Third Parties? Answers for Owners Attempting to Navigate the Unsettled Waters in the Eleventh Circuit*  
-- Chris Chitty

*The Monster in the Closet: Declawing the Inequitable Conduct Beast in the Attorney-Client Privilege Arena*  
-- Alexis Fairweather

*Adult Guardianship Oversight: Perception Versus Reality*  
-- Caroline Freeman

*Is The Doctrine of Continuous Employment Starting to Equal Absolute Coverage In Georgia?*  
-- Nathan Gaffney

*Opportunity Costs: Nonjudicial Foreclosure and the Subprime Mortgage Crisis in Georgia*  
-- Barry Hester

*FASB, the IRS's New Best Friend: How FIN 48 Affects the Taxpayer-IRS Relationship and Potential Taxpayer Challenges*  
-- Andrew Jones

*Severance Sucker Punch: Employers Risk Financing FMLA Lawsuits Against Themselves in Unenforceable Contracts with Former Employees*  
-- Brett Zudekoff

*Divorcing the Husband and Wife Business: An Analysis of I.R.C. § 761(f)*  
-- Adam Winger

-- ALTERNATES --

*Illegal Immigration, Social Security Numbers, and the Federal Privacy Act: A Suggested Avenue of Litigation*  
-- Madison Burnett

*What Not to Wear: The Constitutionality of Ordinances Attempting to Regulate Baggy Pants*  
-- Myrece Johnson

*Mental Retardation and the ADA*  
-- Carly Record

## Congratulations!

### MOOT COURT

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### Law Review

#### THE AWARD FOR 2006-2007 BEST STUDENT NOTE OR COMMENT

Waiting to Exhale: How  
"BONG HiTS 4 JESUS" Reduces  
Breathing Space for Student  
Speakers & Alters the Constitutional  
Limits on Schools' Disciplinary  
Actions Against Student Threats  
in Light of Morse v. Frederick  
By Angie Fox

### BLSA

#### NEWS FROM THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

##### Vice-Chair of the Southern Region:

Alana Nichols

##### Frederick Douglas Moot Court

Semi-Finalists: Lisamarie Bristol &  
Chiquita Woolfolk Banks

##### Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial:

Tiffany Bartholomew, Ernessa  
Brawley, Sherrie Brady and  
Winfield Pollidore obtained  
excellent advocacy scores and  
were only narrowly eliminated  
from the competition.

### Law Review

#### 2008-2009 EDITORIAL BOARD

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## Going Once... Going Twice... Sold!

By Jenifer Kampsen

### *PILA Auction smashes record with \$28,000 raised to fund student pro bono work*

One of the most gratifying aspects of being a law student at Georgia State is the wealth of opportunity to do good and have fun while doing it. No event epitomizes this opportunity like the annual PILA Auction. On February 23, the Georgia Freight Depot was filled to capacity with the Georgia State Law community. Students, faculty, alumni, friends, and family enjoyed dinner, music by the Atlanta Lawyers Orchestra, and Deans-turned-Auctioneers at the record-breaking 2008 PILA Auction.

This year's Auction was held in conjunction with a five-class alumni reunion, a tradition that began in 2007. Expanding on this alumni partnership, the PILA Board wanted to honor an alumnus from the reunion classes whose work has in some form embodied the dedication to public interest that drives the Auction. This year's inaugural SOAR Award was presented to Ms. Aimee

Maxwell of the Georgia Innocence Project in recognition of her recent work to use DNA evidence to free innocent convicts.

Let's muse a moment on the numbers: over 500 in attendance, up 25% from 2007, and over \$28,000 raised, up over 50% from 2007, smashing the 25th anniversary goal of \$25,000.

More important are the great works that this money will help put into action. Every summer, the PILA Auction funds allow public-interested students to work in some of the most rewarding legal internships – those unpaid positions spent serving the indigent or public interest. The ability to enable students to experience the rewards of working in the public interest, which their financial obligations would otherwise not allow, is the driving force of the PILA Auction and is the reason behind the spectacle. This year's success will fund more

Fellowships than ever before and will continue to strengthen the pro bono commitment that has been a rising trend at GSU Law.

On behalf of these students and of the population whose lives will be touched by their work, thank you for helping to make this year's Auction such a raving success.

Specifically, thank you to Nichole Devries, Caroline Freeman, Ely Abbott, Michelle Reese, Professor Lisa Bliss, Dean Roy Sobelson, Dean Steven Kaminshine, Patrick Kunes, Emily Liss, Holly Harrington, Mike Rogers, Patrick Norris, Andrea Neculae, Becky Dembkowski, Heather Chambers, Jennifer Sammons, Lauren Mack, Meg Robinson, Mechelle Bumpers, Stephanie Mason, The Atlanta Lawyers Orchestra, and all alumni, students, and faculty who contributed time, money, items, or all of the above to the accomplishment of the 2008 PILA Auction.

## GSU Law Students Mentor Carver High School Students

By Jerri Nims Rooker, J.D.

This year the Student Health Law Association and the Center for Law, Health & Society kicked off a program for Georgia State Law students to mentor high school students from The New Schools at Carver. Members of the Black Law Student Association and the Child Advocacy Society also volunteered with the program. Carver is a model public school in Georgia incorporating a new way of learning in smaller, more personalized settings. There are five interest-specific schools at Carver that focus on real-world education.

The mentees are from the School of Health Sciences and Research, referred to as the LAB at Carver. As the LAB's principal notes on their Web site – “To see is to know” is the fundamental belief and driving force at the LAB at Carver. Our goal is to prepare young minds for the heart work of post-secondary achievement in any of the over 200 health professions. We believe that a critical ingredient in this preparation is exposure. Our students receive not only intensive rigorous college preparatory instruction, but are engaged in classrooms

without borders; the city and all the resources within our minds' eyes are the students' laboratory.”

Over 20 law students contributed to the LAB's mission – “To see is to know” – by mentoring 20 high school students during the program's inaugural year. Activities included a meet-and-greet visit to Carver where law students and high school students paired up through games and over lunch; a visit to Georgia State Law where Carver students and their mentors attended Prof. Scott's Torts class, watched sections of the film ‘Juvies’ and participated in relevant discussions with Prof. Todres, heard from Prof. Caley about the legal issues that affect kids' health, and then conversed over lunch; and attendance by the mentors and mentees at the national briefing day on the Convention of the Rights of

the Child at Georgia State. One of the most poignant and insightful questions was asked by a Carver student at the lecture on the Convention – “If this is about children's rights, why haven't they asked kids what we think?”

2L Heather Carter, who helped run the Carver mentor program and participated as a mentor, shared this about her experience – “I think the goals of the program were to interact with Carver students and provide guidance about school and life in general. The high school students were highly motivated to gain knowledge from those of us more experienced and appreciated our views.” As the program enters its second year in Fall 2008, all law students are encouraged to participate in this rewarding and much-needed program.



## COL Students Volunteer at the Purim Parade

By Danielle Brudi

On March 16th, adults and children donned costumes of myriad variety, including giraffes, gypsies, clowns, and cowgirls and walked around LaVista road, hoping for candy, cookies, or other treats. It may have seemed like Halloween, but it was actually a parade and carnival celebrating the Jewish holiday of Purim.

Purim celebrates the story of Esther whose pleadings to the Persian King prevent the annihilation of the Jewish people.

This year, the Georgia State Jewish Law Students Association volunteered at the annual festival in Toco Hills, donning judge's robes (graduation gowns) and wigs (made by Evelyn Range, 2L, with cotton balls and cloth) and tossing inflatable gavels and candy to children delighted to see the Kings Lawyers parading down the street. Later, members of the JLSA helped with rides, crafts, carnival food and puppet shows. Sarah Gorvey, an undergraduate member of

the JLSA, stated that her day of volunteering was “the best Sunday [she had] experienced in forever.”

The members of Beth Jacob, who sponsored the carnival, were very impressed with the efforts of Georgia State students. One of them commented that the JLSA's float was the “best in the parade,” and others were excited to see busy young adults taking time from their schedules to help bring joy to their community.

## Street Law Program Continues to Serve

By Nichole DeVries

The Street Law Program at Georgia State University College of Law is one of the largest volunteer community outreach programs that any student group maintains, with over fifty volunteers who inspire high school students to think, analyze, and pursue their dreams. For the last two years law students have developed a close relationship with South Atlanta High's Academy of Law and Social Justice by visiting the school and teaching high school students about a variety of legal topics. In November, GSU Law students also paid an inaugural visit to Carver High School.

Georgia State University College of Law is one of approximately seventy law schools that maintain a Street Law Program. Street Law was innovated at Georgetown University Law Centre in 1972 by Ed O'Brien, now director of Street Law, Inc. Since 1972, the program has spread throughout the United States and has been a useful tool for newly formed countries around the world as an access to justice program. There are three major variations of the street law program: volunteer, for-credit extra-curricular activity, or curricular clinic. GSU's program is currently a volunteer based program.

So what do law students get out of the program? Believe it or not skills. Not only do volunteers provide

a service to the community, they learn how to communicate with clients, think on their feet, and internalize legal concepts. Jonathan Page, a 1L, notes, “My participation in the Street Law Program at GSU has increased my legal knowledge, improved my lawyering skills and provided me with the unique opportunity to empower young people with knowledge of the law. “ Like other clinical programs, the goal of Street Law is that law students can take the lessons learned in the program and apply them to a skillful and ethical practice. Adam Levin, a 2007 graduate of the College of Law, reflected, “As a public defender, I use my experiences from Street Law on a daily basis. Street Law allowed me to better understand the nuanced lives of young people faced with poverty. It's easy to sit-back and expound on the effects of poverty, but to really understand you have to get your hands dirty.”

On April 10 at noon, Street Law will bring students from South Atlanta High's Academy of Law and Social Justice to the College of Law to teach law students about the effect that urban development is having on their communities. After the presentation, law students and high school students will have the opportunity to discuss the implications of legal decisions on local communities over lunch. We hope to see everyone there.

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## San Francisco Considers Safe "Injection Facilities"

By Suzanne Jackson

In the last edition of *The Docket* we reported the fact that members of the San Francisco health community sponsored a full day symposium dedicated to examining the feasibility of a legal Safe Injection Facility (what this editor--and future prosecutor--refers to as a legal Crack house). I put out a call for students to respond to this very controversial issue. My intention was to have a debate as to the feasibility of the legal crack houses. A few students took me up on my request. Below are two compelling, yet very different opinions.

### No Education, no rehabilitation...just a "safe" place to get high

By Heather McPhillip

San Francisco recently took steps towards opening the nation's first legal safe-injection room where addicts are free to shoot up heroin, cocaine and other drugs under the supervision of nurses. I must ask, has the city of San Francisco lost its mind? Apparently it has.

City officials assert that they are concerned with reducing the number of HIV and hepatitis C infections. Their solution? Give intravenous drugs users--no, addicts--a comfy room to get high in and the number will somehow, magically, decrease! But it seems that the city has forgotten a few things in its poor judgment and analysis. For one, it is estimated that the majority of addicts in San Francisco are homeless men. I do not think it is a stretch of the imagination to believe that these unfortunate individuals are probably uneducated and lacking in employable skills, not to mention, they probably have criminal records of some sort. So let me see if I have this right; instead of providing education or training or even some form of drug counseling, giving already despondent and distraught individuals a place to get high will...oh yeah, reduce the number of ....



Heather McPhillip

Secondly, unless these facilities are open any and everywhere, what does the city believe these addicts will do in the mean time, say when the "safe rooms" are closed?

Do officials really believe that these individuals in need of a fix will stay clean until the safe rooms reopen in the morning? No, they will manage to get high any way that they possibly can--dirty needle notwithstanding. Hence, the city's concern/argument about reducing HIV and hepatitis infections is literally punctured with holes. More importantly, what type of message does the city send to its young or those at risk? Providing safe rooms, whether the city wants to admit it or not, sends the message that drug use is no longer taboo or just simply wrong.

I could go on and on about why this is a bad idea (umm, increased incidents of violence, prostitution, drug addicted children, destruction of families and communities...)

But, I'll finish on the strongest argument: for the reasons stated above, it's against the damn law.

### The Moral Bankruptcy of Prohibition

By Eric Coffelt

San Francisco has recently considered allowing "injection rooms" where addicts of intravenous drugs will have access to clean needles, supervised medical care, and freedom from fear of arrest for possession of controlled substances. Supporters of the proposition claim that dirty needles shared by these addicts are responsible for many of the new cases of HIV, and that access to immediate medical care will help prevent fatal overdoses. Opponents argue that such a program will encourage more drug use, and send the "wrong message" to children.

Well, I must say I am happy that at least one city has started thinking outside the box! Drug use, along with prostitution and gambling, is what is known by some as a "victimless crime" because (usually) the only people directly harmed by the activity are the consenting participants. For purposes of this editorial, I will instead adopt author Peter McWilliams' term "consensual crimes" to describe drug use/abuse, as this term emphasizes the voluntary nature of the activity in question, and avoids the cries of my opponents that "society" is somehow the real victim. Here, I will advance a considerably unorthodox view. That is to say, it is unorthodox in the U.S., where puritanical moral absolutism is favored in place of rational discourse based on the realities of our current situation. Ladies and gentlemen, brace yourselves. The "War on Drugs" is lost, and it could never have been won. A peace must be declared, prohibition must end, and new ways of dealing with our drug problems must be explored. The reasons are numerous, and the evidence overwhelming, but I will try to condense as much as I possibly can here.

First, drug prohibition imposes unnecessarily intrusive restrictions on personal liberty and individual autonomy. When a consenting adult (no, not a child, an adult) chooses to use a drug that happens to be out of fashion with the current authorities, it is an insult to his dignity to treat him as a child while he remains peaceful. It is also absurd to lump all drug users in with the "addicts", or to lump all drugs into the same heap (marijuana and heroin may both be illegal, but the similarities stop there). While keeping people off drugs is a worthwhile goal, law enforcement does a lousy job of it. This is not surprising, since the proper function of law enforcement is to arrest those who victimize the rest of us by force or fraud, not to round up peaceful drug users in an astronomically expensive and misguided effort to "cure" them.

An open and regulated market is the best way to preserve the public health, help those that need it, and above all, keep kids off drugs. What's that? Doesn't relaxing

our ideological absolutism send the message to kids that drugs are ok? Well, no. We allow alcohol, cigarettes, gambling, pornography, and firearms in our society for adults, while strictly prohibiting them from minors. It would be no different with drugs. Yes, kids would still get their hands on drugs, just like they do with cigarettes and beer. But at least it will be harder, since the lawful sellers of well-regulated items like alcohol and firearms must have a license, and will lose their business if they ignore the law. Under the black market created by prohibition, the current vendors of drugs have absolutely no incentive to refrain from selling to kids, since they go to jail no matter who they get caught selling to. If you don't believe me, just ask kids at your local high school if it is easier for them to buy beer at the grocery store, or marijuana from the local "guy". Furthermore, research into the results of decriminalization in other countries reveals that there is little to no risk of increased youth trying drugs. The Netherlands, where marijuana policies are arguably the most lenient in the world, has fewer youth per capita trying marijuana than we do. Gee, how did that happen?

You may argue that the outrageous profits that can be made from selling drugs would keep the criminal element in the business of dealing, but this view ignores the reason high profits exist in the first place. The profits come from the black market, which comes from prohibition. When prohibition ends, and the prices/profits fall, it would not only take away the incentive for risking prison, but also reduce the likelihood that an addict (even a poor one) will rob you for his next fix. Furthermore, because some of the most dangerous drugs (crack/crystal meth) are a result of the black market trying to cheapen drug production, an end to prohibition may see a decline in the use of the most menacing among the street drugs. After all, where is the incentive to use something so dangerous when the government is no longer keeping the price of safer drugs artificially high?

Next, consider what happened during and after our last foray into the business of telling people what they can and cannot do with their own bodies. During alcohol prohibition, crime (especially murder) rose to unprecedented highs as gangs fought to control the black market. Law enforcement was widely corrupted as they scrambled to enforce the unenforceable, and soon

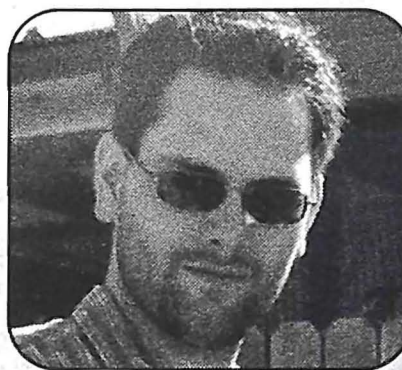
learned to turn a blind eye. Those who formerly enjoyed only beer or wine were forced to drink hard liquor, since the market conditions favored the biggest "bang for the buck" for the moonshiners. Bathtub gin blinded, killed, and crippled people, and since asking for help meant confessing to being a "criminal-drinker," the problems only got worse. When prohibition ended, the market became regulated again, murder rates fell to their pre-prohibition levels, and the Mob was deprived of a serious source of revenue (and Budweiser rarely murders grocery store employees for stocking a rival's product). There is no reason that to think that ending drug prohibition won't result in a similarly stable and reasonable state of affairs.

As for the initiative regarding safe "injection rooms," I think it is a step in the right direction. I would only argue that it is not enough. The government, through its own hardheaded idealism, has created this problem. We now have a cure that's worse than the disease. It seems to me that no reasonable person can honestly say that HIV and fatal overdoses are preferable to admitting that intravenous drugs are here to stay. At least, not without being as hopelessly naïve as the instructor of an abstinence only sex-ed class.

At the end of the day, you cannot rid the world of consensual crimes through outright prohibition. We've tried, and we've failed. Never mind the reasons why, it just doesn't work! Over three decades of failed drug policy, with all those asset forfeitures, no-knock warrants, and outrageous mandatory minimum sentences (some that punish possession harsher than manslaughter!), and the DEA itself admits that we are only stopping about 5% of the traffic. This should not be surprising, since we cannot even stop drugs from getting into our prisons, where we (supposedly) have TOTAL control.

Doesn't this tell you something? Even if we eroded our Constitution to the point that we are all locked behind bars from sea to shining sea, Big Brother would still be impotent to live up to the promise of a "Drug Free America." On this reality alone, San Francisco is right to consider something besides prohibition in order to reduce the harm caused by drugs. As for you diehard prohibitionists, take a good look at the cost in cold cash for housing the largest per capita inmate population in the world, and ask yourself just how far you are willing to

go keep your neighbor from catching a buzz when he gets off work.



Eric Coffelt



# WORD FIND

By Heather McPhillip

## "Lost" Legal Terms

R Q R D S Z G S H O Y T D C S L Q L Y T G B E N A B E H Y A  
J E N O I T C E J B O R V E Y C Y U D M Q Y O L A F A E W H  
F U D L A I N O M I T S E T F P R A O E W I V I X A S A B S  
L H R N X E A U B B O T M Y Q E P U W R T J L W Q B E R K L  
E U E I A E Y X A O M I L D G W R W T A U M F I T A M S S D  
S E H S S M K D S T Q U Q L L W H E D I E M D V T T E A O F  
U J Y W F P Y L I T I G A T I O N N N N N W S H F U N Y J K  
D M F D Z X R R H H S H R M B C U K T C R Y Z U I E T D V A  
X P F O O G U U R K L O L A B O X W K V E A W Z V Z E K M M  
A O Z Z S V K D D E B N O L F N U J H P Z O N P Z S U C V I  
N C S G Z Q A Y H E G L O P R L J U Z I H R M X X A L A A H  
E P C R F Z A X K V N Q E R R Y C U Q N A C N U O V C V F T  
G R V E I X L O A J Q C R A D D O L G T I N D I C T M E N T  
L O O L P Y R R H Y C D E C V Z R U I A T L L H L J C H R Z  
I X M W T T H U P E M V S T V M U O T H J M G B Z G M X V N  
G I M C C U A U X J E S Y I S J N A D H R K N Y D J T C N E  
E M U O I W Q N W S E X T C T A F Z W N W L P N P G I W D B  
N A N N D Y I K C N X R H E L A S M K F R I C V B Y L Q F T  
C T A S R I B W T E F X V I P C B D R H N X Z R W O G L Y O  
E E N I E U K I M S A V T C L P J G G Q C Y L G N I W O N K  
U S I D V G W F M M K Y Q B Q S W E D X Z I X W G T I P J Y  
N F M E F O O N G P Z X G O N K T I E E O C N Y E O B V B H  
W P O R P P L S A I M C I D H B Q A J A N G U J F K I D C P  
O F U A C G X J W G G R M D N J D H E M I U K N J M L L R L  
K L S T I R C H W N E O W G Z G O B L T N S B I V Q Y U Z W  
S M L I F J K C C K P B Y B N V Z C E R G H V B C D E P U H  
G X P O A Y N Y X A P H F C J C M J S W C C A K K T L K C A  
D I M N I Z O M P P N L G F L Q D H B O J A V T T I B X T W  
S C X Q D E B I A S B N X X Z O T W Z C P D A S U M K U I V  
T R H R I X U L I F C I T A T I D W J L A O I I F C A V L H

These words are  
"lost" in the puzzle.  
Can you find them?

(Hint: They may be diagonal, backward,  
forward, right side up and upside down!)

ACCEPTANCE	NEGLIGENCE
BAILMENT	OBJECTION
CONSIDERATION	PROXIMATE
DEFERENCE	QUORUM
EASEMENT	RATIONALITY
FOUNDATION	SCRUTINY
GERRYMANDER	TESTIMONIAL
HEARSAY	UNANIMOUS
INDICTMENT	VERDICT
JURISPRUDENCE	WITNESS
KNOWINGLY	YOUTH
LITIGATION	ZONING
MALPRACTICE	

Good Luck  
on Exams!  
& Have a  
Great Summer!

## You Gotta Eat!

By Catherine Clary

While the rest of Atlanta plays golf, cheers on the Braves or checks out one of the spring time festivals, those lucky few of us in law school have one thing on our agendas... exams. But, no matter how stressed out you find yourself, you need to take some time to rejuvenate. Cooking is a great way to de-stress and a nutritious meal may be just what your mind and body need to get you through these rough few weeks. So plan a date night- your significant other probably wonders where you've been- or have some friends over to vent about law school. Below is an easy and quick, yet elegant spring time meal. Set up a table outside, pour a glass of wine, and eat slowly... because as soon as you're done it's time to hit the books again!

### SPRING TIME STUDY MENU

Green Jacket Salad • Angel Hair Pasta with Tomatoes, Basil, Pine Nuts

French Bread with Rosemary Infused Olive Oil • Ice Cream Waffle Bowl with Fruit and Magic Shell

#### Rosemary Infused Olive Oil

2 ½ - 3 TBSP olive oil  
A few sprigs of Rosemary  
2 or 3 cloves of garlic, chopped or minced  
Salt and Pepper, to taste

Remove rosemary leaves from stems and chop finely. Chop or mince 2 to 3 garlic cloves. Add rosemary and garlic to olive oil. Salt and pepper to taste.

Allow rosemary and garlic to infuse olive oil- can be done days ahead of time or just while you are preparing the rest of your meal.

Drizzle olive oil on French bread. Bake at 350 until slightly toasted.

You can easily increase amount of ingredients and use the olive oil for dipping bread.

#### Green Jacket Salad (Augusta's Favorite Salad)

2 TBSP Red Wine Vinegar  
2 TBSP Olive Oil or Vegetable Oil  
1 tsp seasoned salt  
1 tsp Accent (seasoning found at any grocery store)  
2 Scallions  
Head of Lettuce  
One tomato  
Stacy's Pita Chips or Sliced Baked Bagel Chips

Mix the first four ingredients and set aside. Chop lettuce, tomato and scallions- toss together. Toss with dressing and add chips. Toss well.

#### Angel Hair Pasta with Shrimp, Tomato and Basil

1 lb shrimp, peeled  
4-5 tomatoes, chopped  
1 packet fresh Basil (from Produce Section of Grocery, or a generous bundle from the garden)  
¼ cup pine nuts  
3 cloves garlic  
olive oil  
salt and pepper  
Angel hair pasta

Drizzle about 2 TBSP olive oil in large skillet. Saute garlic in olive oil. Add pine nuts and sauté for a minute or two. Add tomatoes and cook for four minutes. Add basil and allow it to wilt. Add shrimp and cook until opaque.

While cooking basil and shrimp, boil pasta according to package directions. Add proportionate amount of pasta to sauce and toss until well mixed.

Sprinkle with freshly grated parmesan.

#### Ice Cream Waffle Cone Bowl with Berries and Magic Shell

Vanilla Ice Cream  
Fresh berries- strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, blueberries  
Magic Shell chocolate covering  
Waffle cone ice cream bowl (both found with ice cream "accessories" in grocery store)

Scoop ice cream into waffle bowl. Generously add berries. Cover ice cream and berries in magic shell. Serve.

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Classes Now!

Wednesday, April 16th  
Georgia Sources  
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Computer Lab  
12:30, 3:30 & 4:30

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Wednesday, April 11th  
PREPARE TO PRACTICE-  
JUDICIAL AND GOVERNMENT  
CLERKSHIPS

Noon, 4pm and 5pm  
6th floor Training Lab

Wednesday, April 18th  
LAST CHANCE PREPARE TO  
PRACTICE-USING WESTLAW  
EFFICIENTLY IN THE REAL WORLD

Noon, 4pm and 5pm  
6th floor Training Lab

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